## It's an election year . . . . . run a produce campaign!

Have fun while learning about the political process and fruits and vegetables



### Involve the Whole School . . . and Community

- Teachers including health and physical education
- School nurse
- School food service personnel
- School and public librarians
- UNH Cooperative Extension
- Parents, grandparents, PTO, PTA
- Community dietitians -- try the hospital's outpatient clinic or community education department
- Children's clubs like 4-H and scouts
- College students -- try the nutrition, dietetics, home economics, nursing, and education departments

#### Have Each Student Research One "Candidate's" Background

- On the Dole Nutrition Program's CD-ROM, 5 A Day Adventures
- On the internet

Centers for Disease Control and Provention

http://www.cdc.gov/5aday

**Dole Nutrition Program**<a href="http://www.dole5aday.com">http://www.dole5aday.com</a>

Produce for Better Health Foundation <a href="http://pbhfoundation.org">http://pbhfoundation.org</a>

### Identify Each Candidate's Platform and Winning Traits

- High in fiber,
   Vitamin A, or
   Vitamin C
- Member of the cabbage family
- New Hampshire native
- Great flavor and great color
- Crunchy and juicy
- Versatile
- Travels well
- Available fresh, frozen, and canned
- No cooking required
- Year-round leader
- Tastes great on pizza
- Fuzzy
- Tropical

### Create Election Tools

- Ballot (page 2)
- Posters
- Fruit and veggie costumes
- Slogans
- Essays
- Ballot box
- Bunting

### Invite the Whole School, Families, and the Community to "Meet the Candidates"

- Decorate hallways, gym or auditorium using posters and bunting
- Organize caucus meetings
- Hold debates
- Offer taste tests a "sampling of the candidates"
- Hold the election (See ballot on the next page. To make write-in ballots possible, you may want to remove some of the names before you make copies of the ballot.)
- Tally votes and report the results
- Ask young "reporters" to write a story about the campaign and election results
- Have winners and losers make speeches

#### **Involve Younger Students**

Even preschoolers and lower elementary grades can participate in a produce election!

- Ask the students for nominations. (This step is optional.)
- Create a ballot for younger students by drawing lines on poster board. Put one candidate on each line – either a drawing or photograph. Limit the number of candidates to ten or less.
- Ask each young voter to cast their ballot by placing a brightly-colored sticker dot next to their favorite.



# Vote for Your Favorite Fruits Vegetables

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### Vote for one.

Logan beny	Lills and vegetante	<ul><li>□ Kale</li><li>□ Kidney Beans</li><li>□ Kohlrabi</li><li>□ Leek</li><li>□ Lettuce</li></ul>	<ul> <li>☐ Tomato</li> <li>☐ Turnip</li> <li>☐ Turnip Greens</li> <li>☐ Watercress</li> </ul>
☐ Kiwifruit ☐ Kumquat ☐ Lemon ☐ Lime ☐ Logan Berry	☐ Tangelo ☐ Tangerine ☐ Thimbleberry ☐ Watermelon	<ul><li>□ Eggplant</li><li>□ Garlic</li><li>□ Green beans</li><li>□ Green pepper</li><li>□ Kale</li></ul>	<ul><li>□ Spinach</li><li>□ Sprouts</li><li>□ Summer Squash</li><li>□ Sweet Potato</li><li>□ Swiss Chard</li></ul>
<ul><li>□ Date</li><li>□ Fig</li><li>□ Grape</li><li>□ Grapefruit</li><li>□ Guava</li><li>□ Honeydew</li></ul>	<ul> <li>□ Prune</li> <li>□ Quince</li> <li>□ Raisin</li> <li>□ Raspberry</li> <li>□ Star Fruit</li> <li>□ Strawberry</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>□ Cauliflower</li> <li>□ Celery</li> <li>□ Chicory Greens</li> <li>□ Chinese Cabbage</li> <li>□ Collard Greens</li> <li>□ Dandelion Greens</li> </ul>	<ul><li>□ Plantain</li><li>□ Potato</li><li>□ Pumpkin</li><li>□ Radish</li><li>□ Rutabaga</li><li>□ Scallion</li></ul>
<ul><li>□ Black Beans</li><li>□ Boysenberry</li><li>□ Cantaloupe</li><li>□ Cherry</li><li>□ Cranberry</li></ul>	<ul><li>□ Pear</li><li>□ Persimmon</li><li>□ Pineapple</li><li>□ Plum</li><li>□ Pomegranate</li></ul>	<ul><li>□ Bok Choy</li><li>□ Broccoli</li><li>□ Brussels Sprouts</li><li>□ Cabbage</li><li>□ Carrot</li></ul>	<ul><li>□ Parsnip</li><li>□ Pea Beans</li><li>□ Pea Pod</li><li>□ Peas</li><li>□ Pinto Beans</li></ul>
<ul><li>□ Apple</li><li>□ Apricot</li><li>□ Banana</li><li>□ Blackberry</li><li>□ Blueberry</li></ul>	<ul><li>☐ Mango</li><li>☐ Orange</li><li>☐ Papaya</li><li>☐ Passion Fruit</li><li>☐ Peach</li></ul>	<ul><li>☐ Artichoke</li><li>☐ Asparagus</li><li>☐ Beet</li><li>☐ Beet Greens</li><li>☐ Black-eyed Peas</li></ul>	<ul><li>☐ Mushroom</li><li>☐ Mustard Greens</li><li>☐ Navy Beans</li><li>☐ Onion</li><li>☐ Okra</li></ul>